



Old Buckenham Primary School
Collective Worship Policy
'Inspiring Learning for Life'

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Executive summary	This is an updated version of the policy
Review Body Teaching staff	Review Body Teaching staff
Endorsed by Governing Body	Endorsed by Governing Body

Signature _____

Helen Mitchell, Headteacher

Date:

Signature _____

Chris Archer, Chair of Local Board of Governors

Date:

Collective worship

Legal framework

Daily collective worship is a statutory requirement of schools, as laid out in the Education Reform Act (1988) and The DfE guidance on Religious education and collective worship in England (1994). Schools are required to 'provide religious education and daily collective worship for all registered pupils and promote their spiritual, moral and cultural development' (excluding nursery children). Unless exception is specifically sought, this collective worship should be 'mainly of a broadly Christian character' which reflects the ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds of the pupils and should not link to one particular Christian denomination.

The organisation of daily collective worship can be flexible, and does not have to take place in an assembly. It must take part on school grounds, but additional acts of collective worship may take place off site. Collective worship must be done as part of a group, but does not have to be whole school.

Parents have the legal right to wholly or partly withdraw their child from collective worship, and do not have to state a reason for the withdrawal. Withdrawal should incur no additional cost to the school and may include attendance but non-participation in collective worship.

Teachers have the right to withdraw from collective worship on the grounds of conscience but cannot withdraw from participation/attendance in assemblies when required.

Headteachers have a duty under the 1988 Act to see that the law on Collective Worship is complied with in their school, and to maintain a record of any withdrawal from collective worship. In consultation with the governing body, the Headteacher can determine the ways in which the broad traditions of Christian belief are to be reflected in acts of collective worship to be appropriate to the family backgrounds, ages and aptitudes of the pupils.

Norfolk Agreed Syllabus (SACRE, 2012) does not specifically mention collective worship, but endorses the introduction of the idea of Christianity as a 'heritage religion'.

Definitions

Collective worship is intended to promote children's spiritual, moral and cultural development, and should strongly support the shared ethos and values of a school. It should aim to provide an opportunity for pupils to show reverence, to develop community spirit, reinforce positive attitudes, worship God and explore their own beliefs. It should offer children explicit opportunities to consider the response of religion to moral and ethical questions, and to develop their own response to such matters.

Sapienta Educational Trust's vision.

To provide a world class education locally, enabling every pupil to reach their full potential.

Old Buckenham Primary and Nursery School's Vision Statement.

At Old Buckenham Primary School every child counts. We believe in developing a child's intellectual, creative, emotional, physical, spiritual and moral aspects of their personality. This takes place in a caring and supportive school that has strong links with the local community.

Old Buckenham Primary and Nursery School's Aim.

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In our school we aim to:

- Provide a safe, happy and caring learning environment.
- Aspire to outstanding levels of individual achievement
- To develop self esteem and confidence and promote respect for others.
- Celebrate success (in and out of school), positive attitudes and behaviour.
- Nurture life long learning at the heart of the community
- Promote opportunities for children to discover their talents
- For parents/carers to feel valued as a part of school community.

We want our children to be confident and healthy individuals, successful learners and responsible citizen

Old Buckenham Primary and Nursery School's School Motto.

'Inspiring learning for life'

At Old Buckenham Primary and Nursery School, we believe that collective worship in a broadly Christian tradition best fits the heritage of our community, but also see promoting the understanding of the traditions and celebrations of other religions as important. Both secular and religious discussions play an important part in developing children's social, moral, spiritual and cultural awareness, encouraging children to engage with 'big ideas' and issues which help them engage with the wider world.

Aims

Old Buckenham Primary and Nursery School maintains strong links within the local church community and marks key Christian festivals throughout the year, including Harvest, Easter and Christmas. These often include opportunities to involve the wider school community, inviting parents and carers to share in these acts of collective worship alongside the children and staff.

Collective worship will largely take place within the school assembly and may include celebrating and considering the ethos and achievements of pupils, groups and the whole school. Assemblies, visitors, lessons, plays, songs, council and eco-team meetings/class feedback and circle times also provide opportunities for collective worship; times for children to consider the world and their place within it, understanding others and developing their own thoughts and responses. Old Buckenham Primary and Nursery School is also committed to helping children develop a respect for others and the environment. These issues can be linked both implicitly and explicitly to Christian values and traditions by teachers and staff in school.

This is how collective worship looks in our school.

- Jigsaw class assemblies which provide a collective starting point for a PSHE theme as well as opportunities to deepen children's thinking and identify that the whole school are sharing in similar ideas and discussions.
- Sharing stories that have a moral or religious message or raise an ethical question, both in classes and assemblies.

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- Class assemblies, performances and invited sessions which celebrate and share their learning and achievements with the wider school and families, also often delivering a shared message which promotes a positive ethos.
- Discussion times that offer children a chance to share their thoughts and feelings with others and listen in turn (including but not limited to PSHE, council, circle times and reading comprehension).
- Assembly visitors with church or community links who share religious and moral stories and help the children to draw parallels in their own lives and experiences.
- Special mention assemblies which celebrate and recognise the efforts and achievements of individuals and groups, encouraging a positive community feeling.
- Marking significant religious celebrations through learning, assemblies, visits and celebrations, with a focus on Christian celebrations, including Christingle, Harvest and Easter.
- School and class reward systems which value behaviour for learning but also kindness, considerateness and respect for others. Reward systems where individual achievements and recognition earn positive outcomes for groups.
- Music choices in assemblies where an adult or child has time to explain their choice, often reflecting on its personal significance.
- Nativity performances which incorporate a focus on the birth of Jesus and share a positive message.
- Learning and performing songs with a religious message, often around Harvest and Christmas.
- Support for charities and causes which work to improve others' lives, such as Children in Need or the reverse Christmas Advent.
- Marking and learning about significant events and people and reflecting on the impact they have on our lives, such as Remembrance Day.
- Sharing inspirational images, quotes and ideas.

Collective Worship Weekly Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y4-Y6 Collective Worship – <i>Usually class led</i>	Y1-Y3 Collective Worship- <i>Usually class led</i>	Character Education <i>Usually class led Mr Grass introduces the new 'virtue' of the month</i>	Jigsaw <i>Class led</i>	Special Mention <i>Led by the Headteacher/ Senior Teacher</i>
Y1-Y3 Singing Assembly- <i>Led by Headteacher</i>	Y4-Y6 Singing Assembly- <i>Led by Headteacher</i>			

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Appendices:

JIGSAW ASSEMBLIES AND CELEBRATIONS

Autumn Term 1: Being me in my world.

Autumn Term 1	Collective worship/Assembly	Being me in my world.
	Songs	The colours of friendship. Choices. The jigsaw puzzle (exit music).
	Assembly suggestions	<i>The Clapping Song</i> by Shirley Ellis, <i>You need hands</i> by Max Bygraves, Images of hands doing different activities.
	Weekly celebration topic	<i>This week we are celebrating people in our school who:</i>
	Week 1	Help others to feel welcome.
	Week 2	Try to make our school community a better place.
	Week 3	Think about everyone's right to learn.
	Week 4	Care about other people's feelings.
	Week 5	Work well with others.
Week 6	Choose to follow the learning charter.	

Autumn Term 2: Celebrating differences.

Autumn Term 2	Collective worship/Assembly	Celebrating differences.
	Songs	The colours of friendship. Playground Blues. The jigsaw puzzle (exit music).
	Assembly suggestions	<i>Fireworks</i> by Katy Perry Images of children around world/school. <i>Everyone is different</i> by Lanny Sherwin (youtube video)
	Weekly celebration topic	<i>This week we are celebrating people in our school who:</i>
	Week 1	Accept that everyone is different.
	Week 2	Include others when working or playing.
	Week 3	Know how to help if someone is being bullied.
	Week 4	Try to solve problems.
	Week 5	Try to use kind words.
Week 6	Know how to give and receive compliments.	

Spring Term 1: Dreams and goals.

Spring Term 1	Collective worship/Assembly	Dreams and goals.
	Songs	Learning to learn. The jigsaw puzzle (exit music).
	Assembly suggestions	<i>Proud</i> by Heather Small Images of people looking proud. Olympic/athlete images.
	Weekly celebration topic	<i>This week we are celebrating people in our school who:</i>
	Week 1	Stay motivated when doing something challenging.
	Week 2	Keep trying even when it is difficult.
	Week 3	Work well with a partner or in a group.
	Week 4	Have a positive attitude.
	Week 5	Help others to achieve their goals.
Week 6	Are working hard to achieve their own goals.	

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Spring Term 2: Healthy me.

Spring Term 2	Collective worship/Assembly	Healthy me.
	Songs	Keep fit, keep healthy. The jigsaw puzzle (exit music).
	Assembly suggestions	<i>Feeling good</i> by Nina Simone. Images of healthy activities and foods, and vehicle.
	Weekly celebration topic	<i>This week we are celebrating people in our school who:</i>
	Week 1	Have made a healthy choice.
	Week 2	Have eaten a healthy, balanced diet.
	Week 3	Have been physically active.
	Week 4	Have tried to keep themselves and others safe.
	Week 5	Know how to be a good friend and enjoy healthy friendships.
Week 6	Know how to keep calm and deal with difficult situations.	

Summer Term 1: Relationships.

Summer Term 1	Collective worship/Assembly	Relationships.
	Songs	Learning together. The colours of friendship. The jigsaw puzzle (exit music).
	Assembly suggestions	<i>Thank you for being a friend</i> by Andrew Gold, <i>I'll be there for you</i> by the Rembrandts. Images of friendship groups.
	Weekly celebration topic	<i>This week we are celebrating people in our school who:</i>
	Week 1	Know how to make friends.
	Week 2	Try to solve friendship problems when they occur.
	Week 3	Help others to feel part of a group.
	Week 4	Show respect in how they treat others.
	Week 5	Know how to help themselves and others when they feel upset or hurt.
Week 6	Know and show what makes a good relationship.	

Summer Term 2: Changing me.

Summer Term 2	Collective worship/Assembly	Changing me.
	Songs	Changing as I grow. The jigsaw puzzle (exit music).
	Assembly suggestions	<i>In my life</i> by The Beatles. Candle. Images of baby and grown animals and humans. Images of teachers as children/now. www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/how-do-we-change-as-we-grow-older
	Weekly celebration topic	<i>This week we are celebrating people in our school who:</i>
	Week 1	Understand that everyone is unique and special.
	Week 2	Can express how they feel when change happens.
	Week 3	Understand and respect the changes that they see in themselves.
	Week 4	Understand and respect the changes that they see in other people.
	Week 5	Know who to ask for help if they feel worried about change.
Week 6	Are looking forward to change.	

